

CLAIMS

1. A method for the selective delivery of data to an application (as
5 herein defined) by means of unidirectional communication, comprising
associating with the data prior to transmission a status indicator, transmitting
the data and status indicator, receiving the data and status indicator,
ascertaining a present status (as herein defined) of the application, comparing
the ascertained present status with the status indicator, and enabling the
10 application to read the data if the ascertained present status of the application
is within the scope of the status defined by the status indicator and inhibiting
the application from reading the data otherwise.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the status indicator
15 defines a location.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2, in which the location comprises
at least two co-ordinates.

20 4. A method as claimed in claim 2, in which the location comprises
a predefined area.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the status indicator
defines a combination of location and rate of change of location.
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6. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the status indicator
defines at least one climatic condition.

7. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the status indicator
30 comprises at least a directory name.

8. A communication system operating in accordance with the method claimed in any of claims 1 to 7, comprising means for associating with data prior to transmission a status indicator, means for transmitting the data and status indicator, means for receiving the data and status indicator, means
5 for ascertaining a present status (as herein defined) of an application (as herein defined), and means for comparing the ascertained present status with the status indicator and enabling the application to read the data if the ascertained present status of the application is within the scope of the status defined by the status indicator and inhibiting the application from reading the
10 data otherwise.

9. Encoding apparatus for use in a communication system as claimed in claim 8, comprising means for associating with data prior to transmission a status indicator which defines a status (as herein defined) to be
15 used as a data filtering criterion, whereby an application (as herein defined) may read the data only if the status of the application is within the scope of the status defined by the status indicator.

10. Data filtering apparatus for use in a communication system as claimed in claim 8, comprising means for comparing a present status (as
20 herein defined) of an application (as herein defined) with a status indicator associated with transmitted data, and means for enabling the application to read the data if the present status of the application is within the scope of the status defined by the status indicator and inhibiting the application from
25 reading the data otherwise.

11. A receiving station for use in a communication system as claimed in claim 8, comprising means for receiving data and a status indicator associated with the data, means for ascertaining a present status (as herein
30 defined) of an application (as herein defined), means for comparing the ascertained present status of the application with the status indicator, and means for enabling the application to read the data if the ascertained present

status of the application is within the scope of the status defined by the status indicator and inhibiting the application from reading the data otherwise.

12. A receiving station as claimed in claim 11, in which the means for
5 ascertaining a present status of an application is an input means for receiving
information about the present status of the application.